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COMMUNITY

Tourism takes a hit during pandemic

Business leaders answer questions during Facebook Q&A

By Tyler S. Witkop
Staff Writer

Across the country, businesses of all sizes are taking a hit as a result of restrictions to help limit the spread of infections caused by the novel coronavirus. Here in Western



Sen. Eric Lesser

Massachusetts, among the hardest hit sectors is that of Tourism, Hospitality and Arts and Culture.

To help spread the message and to encourage future business, two local leaders joined state Sen. Eric Lesser (D-Longmeadow) of the first Hampden and Hampshire District, Senate chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, for a Facebook Live Q&A session Friday, May 1. Joining Lesser were Mary Kay Wydra, president of the Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, and John Doleva, president and CEO of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

"Every family and small business has felt pain from this crisis, but we know one sector that has been particularly hard hit is our vital tourism and hospitality industry, which is the third largest source of employment for Massachusetts families," Lesser said. "We must all work together to keep families safe, stop the spread of this virus, and ensure our economy recovers."

According to Wydra, tourism and hospitality has been "hard hit" by state and local orders closing non-essential business, limiting gatherings to 10 or fewer people and keeping six feet of separation between others. She said since Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker issued his stay-at-home advisory in March, there have been 118 pieces of lost business in Western Massachusetts, which represent business and trade conventions at places like the Mass-Mutual Center in Springfield and the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield. That equates to roughly \$49 million in lost revenue to the local economy coming from sources including food and retail vendors and booked hotel rooms.

"Hopefully the numbers won't keep climbing," Wydra said.

Trickle Effect

But more than just individual businesses struggling, Wydra said the shutdown also hampers state and municipal revenues through sales, meal and occupancy taxes.

Doleva, of Wilbraham, said he and the staff at the Hall of Fame were looking forward to re-opening the Hall in mid-June, which had been closed starting Feb. 5 to complete a multi-million dollar renovation project. They were also looking forward to hosting some of the world's greatest basketball personalities for the annual enshrinement ceremony, which was set to celebrate the late Kobe Bryant, who was killed with his daughter and seven others in a helicopter crash in January, and who was inducted into the Hall in his first year of eligibility.

TOURISM | page 5



Hitchcock Farmer's Market open for business



Opening day of the Hitchcock Farmer's Market in April.

Photo courtesy of Board of Health chair Dick Costa.

By Elise Linscott
elinscott@turley.com

BRIMFIELD – The Hitchcock Farmer's Market has been running as originally scheduled – with extra safety measures in place – and organizers say it's been well attended.

The farmer's market, held in the parking lot of Hitchcock Free Academy, runs on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with a handful of vendors selling food items ranging from baked goods, meats and produce to honey and maple

products. Only vendors selling food items are currently allowed to participate since they're considered essential businesses, said Hitchcock Free Academy director Cindy Skowrya.

Last Saturday, close to 200 people attended, she said.

"Speaking with my vendors, I think it's been as busy as it generally is at the highlight of the year," Skowrya said. "Usually, it starts slow in April because it so early. But they said it's been as busy as at its busiest time."

All visitors and vendors are

required to wear masks, and there are two hand-washing stations and hand sanitizer available for public use, said Brimfield Board of Health chair Dick Costa. No reusable bags or tablecloths are allowed, and all booths are at least six feet apart, according to a post on the Town of Brimfield's website. The public is also encouraged to limit cash exchange and to use Venmo, PayPal or limited touch card scan instead to purchase goods.

"It's a part of the community and a lot of people take advantage

of it," Costa said. "That's one of the reasons we wanted to find a way to have it happen. I think that people felt comfortable attending it because of the measures that were taken."

Both Skowrya and Linda Fuchs, who's in charge of the farm community side of organizing the market, "did a fabulous job with coming up with means and methods so we could open the market," he added.

Costa and other members of

FARMERS MARKET | page 8

POLICE/FIRE

Two arrested on child endangerment, drug charges, warrant

By Elise Linscott
elinscott@turley.com

PALMER – A Spencer woman and Palmer man were arrested on drug possession charges, child endangerment and an arrest warrant after reports of a man in a vehicle "acting strangely," with two young children in the car.

On May 1st at about 4 p.m., Ludlow police officers responded to the parking lot of the Cumberland Farms at 320 East St. in Ludlow for a report of a male subject who was acting strangely and appeared to be hitting him-

self, according to a statement from Ludlow Police Lieutenant Daniel Valadas. The caller also said there were children and a woman in the vehicle with him.

When officers arrived they initially couldn't locate the motor vehicle, a white Subaru, but within minutes they found the vehicle nearby in the parking lot of the East Street School.

Officers spoke with the vehicle's operator, Brenda M. Sweet, 24, of Spencer, Mass., and the male passenger, Stephen M. Smola, 26, of Palmer. Sweet was exhibiting signs she was impaired

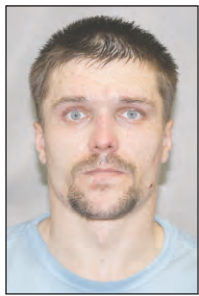
while driving and after further investigation, she was placed into custody for operating under the influence of drugs. Sweet was also found to be in possession of heroin and crack cocaine.

Smola was placed into custody for two outstanding Massachusetts arrest warrants and for providing officers with false identification.

The two children in their care, a two-year-old girl and a one-year-old girl, were both transported to the Ludlow Police Station where they were cared for by police



Brenda Sweet



Stephen Smola

officers until employees from the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families could respond to the police station.

Smola was held without the

ARRESTS | page 5

EDUCATION

Three Monson High School students finish year-long internships

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

MONSON – This school year, three seniors at Monson High School participated in a two-semester Work-Based Learning experience, provided by partnering non-profit organization River East School-to-Career Inc.

According to Monson High School's director of school counseling, Robert Bardwell, Monson students will normally do one semester, but can continue to intern if there are more opportunities to learn.

Because the three students – Kelsey Duggan, Haley Fennyery, and Mia Krupczak – decided to intern for another semester, Bardwell said that he came up with new

assignments for them to do for the new semester.

One of these assignments was to do a presentation to the Board of Directors for River East on March 10th. They also recently met with the Monson School Committee on April 22nd through Zoom.

Unable to pick just one Monson student to represent the Outstanding Student-Mentor Team, Bardwell said that he nominated all three students because of how hard each of them has worked. He



Kelsey Duggan



Haley Fennyery with John Herrera, Manager of Financial Operations for Baystate Health's Eastern Region.

was also encouraged by Loretta Dansereau, Director of River East School-to-Career, to make this decision.

"They all have great stories, and are great at what they do,"



Mia Krupczak

Bardwell said. At Granite Valley Middle School, Duggan was placed in a sixth-grade math class, mentored by math teacher Zac Dreher, for about an hour nearly five days a week. When class was in session, Duggan would assist students on any problem they had trouble understanding or needed a different explanation for. She also served as an extra outlet and "math brain" for the students.

STUDENTS | page 3

SCHOOLS

Monson looks to Facebook to support graduates

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

MONSON – On the night of March 28, Monson resident Crystal Rondeau was thinking of each event her daughter, Lily Rondeau, would be missing as a senior in high school.

To do something about this, and to support other seniors who have reached this milestone, Rondeau started a Facebook page, titled "Adopt a High School Senior."

"I think everyone feels at a loss for how to handle things right now," said Rondeau. "I can't bring back prom and graduation, but I can put a smile on their face for a moment."

This Facebook page gives high school seniors a place for them or their family members to write a bio about themselves and sum up what interests they will be pursuing once they have officially graduated.

Even if some students are not planning on going to college after graduating, Rondeau said that they are still welcomed to join, and that they matter.

"It's not just for seniors that have a perfect GPA, or are in the national honor society, or are going on to college," said Rondeau. "To make this country run, we need people that are tradesmen. There are a lot very rewarding and lucrative jobs that don't require a college degree."

Rondeau was initially inspired by a group that was started in Georgia and intended for her page to be made for local high school seniors,

MONSON | page 8

COMMUNITY

Monson Summerfest Celebrations: Victim to COVID-19

Monson Summerfest will not take place this year
No June Fireworks and
No July 4, 2020 Activities

MONSON – The Monson Summerfest, Inc committee voted to suspend the June fireworks and Fourth of July activities for 2020 after consulting local health agencies, and that given these circumstances, it is not in the best interest of our town to hold our annual celebration this year.

Chairman Steve Slozak explained, "The committee has always prided itself by providing our community and visitors with a safe, friendly, and family oriented day in keeping with the traditional Fourth of July celebration. The current health concerns posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and its implications for the well-being of all people has posed a very real threat to that goal."

He went on to explain, "It was a disappointing decision, but one that the committee felt necessary. We are not willing to put any of our citizens or visitors in harm's way."

The committee will continue to look forward to 2021 with a renewed

SUMMERFEST | page 5

Old Sturbridge Academy celebrates Better World Day virtually

Traditions are observed with Zoom

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Academy may be a young school with only a few years under its belt, but it already has strong traditions, such as Better World Day, which it holds on May 1.

With COVID-19 shutting down schools, OSA has turned to virtual learning, including celebrating one of its annual traditions, Better World Day.

While before the pandemic there would have been a celebration at the school and the planting of new trees in students' hometowns, this year the celebration took place collectively in everyone's home through Zoom, the online video conferencing application. Students' home creations, such as videos, paintings, sidewalk chalk creations, letters, and cards of appreciation for those who are demonstrating courage and kindness, were shared on social media with the hashtag #BetterWorldDay.

"We're proud of our students' participation during this unprecedented time," said OSA Principal Lisa DeTora. "Better World Day Connections is a wonderful way to demonstrate that, although apart, we are all engaged together as one community to send support to one another. We love seeing our students' heartfelt contributions to this project."

DeTora said the school's teachers and students, along with their parents, were able to come together May 1 and give thanks to the essential workers such as firefighters, police, nurses, doctors, grocery store workers and delivery people, all of whom are braving COVID-19 conditions.

All 240 students took part in making projects, including posters, leading up to May 1. "They were all so engaged and each created something to share with the school," she said.

OSA wellness teacher, Sophia Romeri, taught students and staff a dance, which they did together during the Zoom celebration. Parents and siblings joined in as well.

"It felt like there was a great warmth and it felt like a community," said Romeri of the celebration. "We really enjoyed coming together. We miss being in the school doing hands-on activities together."

During the call, individual students would be "highlighted" by having just their face on everyone's screens. "They would suddenly realize the focus was on them,"



Old Sturbridge Academy students and sisters, Amelia and Ella Maurice, of Monson, in second grade and kindergarten, respectively, take part in OSA's Better World Day. It was held virtually on May 1.

she said. "It was really fun, and I think the whole school found it uplifting."

Romeri said putting parents into full-time teachings "was a big ask," and the teachers and staff appreciate the hard work they are doing with their children.

Old Sturbridge Academy, an EL Education public charter school on the grounds of Old Sturbridge Village, is celebrating its annual Better World Day in a different way this May 1, by encouraging virtual connections among students and their communities.

OSA is one of 160 EL Education charter schools which mark Better World Day to reinforce the alignment between education, character and public service.

Better World Connections took place throughout April, culminating on Better World Day on May 1. Each post appeared on EL Education's Better World Day page in a gallery of student contributions from across the country.

"The message of Better World Day has never been more important," said Jim Donahue, president and CEO of Old Sturbridge Village. "Although we wish we could celebrate in person with our students, the virtual connections project is a way that our

students can connect with our communities and share joy and hope, a vital message in today's world."

Last year's OSA Better World Day celebration included a procession through the Village with music and remarks, followed by agriculture projects on the property. Students then planted shade trees in each of the communities that the school serves, including Sturbridge, West Brookfield, East Brookfield, North Brookfield, Brimfield, Holland, Monson, Palmer, Southbridge, Spencer, Wales and Webster.

OSA Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School, a K-5 EL Education school working in partnership with Old Sturbridge Village, provides a learning environment that



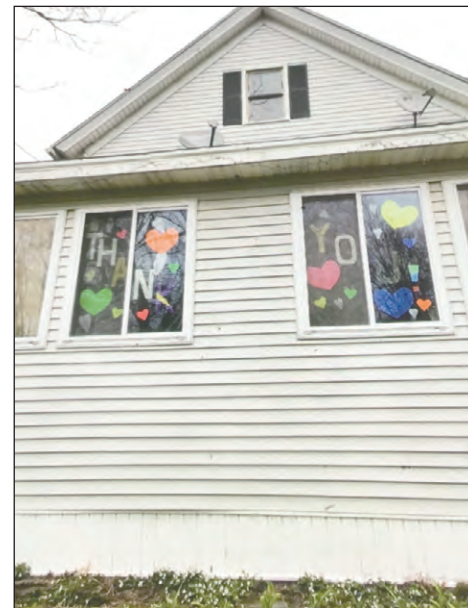
Old Sturbridge Academy student, Delia Mott, of Holland, joined her fellow kindergartners as Better World Day was held virtually this year on May 1.

represents all aspects of the diversity spectrum and where our students will meet or exceed grade-level expectations in all subject areas. A culture of quality permeates the school and our students graduate with an understanding of how they learn best and how to advocate for the resources they need when they are challenged. EL Education schools are high achieving, engaging learning environments that push teachers and students to do more than they think they can.

EL Education



Fourth-grader Piper Mathiau, of Wales, takes part in OSA's Better World Day on Zoom.



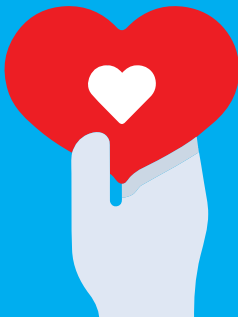
Turley Publications courtesy photos

OSA students in Palmer decorated their house as part of the school's Better World Day, which was held on Zoom this year.

Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at elinscott@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

A Heartfelt Thank You



For nearly 150 years, our community has entrusted Baystate Health with their health and wellbeing. Every day - past and present - it is our privilege to care for you and your family - thank you.

Today, we give a heartfelt thank you to our own family of frontline healthcare workers, and to all who support them, during this unprecedented time. Together, they are more than 12,000 courageous, compassionate, steadfast and selfless individuals who are helping each other to better help our community.

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Visit BaystateHealth.org/Heartfelt to join us in giving a heartfelt thank you to our Baystate Health frontline.

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DEADLINE

The Journal Register has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at bcoulter@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

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Over the past few weeks we have seen a sharp increase in fresh meat prices, due to limited supply, and high demand. We will not run out of meat, however certain items or cuts may be less available than others. Our frozen sections continue to provide great values with an extensive selection and variety, and are a great alternative, we encourage you to check them out! Please note, beginning May 6th, per the order of the State of Massachusetts, anyone entering the premises must wear a face covering and we will be required to refuse entry to anyone who does not comply. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during these unusual circumstances. Be well and stay safe!

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The Journal Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

STUDENTS I from page 1

Regarding her experience at Granite Valley Middle School, Duggan said that she learned how to guide and interact with younger kids as a teacher instead of a student. "I learned how to be extremely patient and how to talk to kids. I learned what works when explaining things," Duggan said in a statement in the River East newsletter. "I really enjoyed my experience, but it showed me that I would rather teach an older age group."

Going forward, Duggan will continue to pursue her interest in education in the fall as a math major with a Secondary Education focus at Bridgewater State University.

Fennyery did a year-long internship in the Finance Department of Baystate Wing Hospital under the supervision of John Herrera, Manager of Financial Operations for Baystate Health's Eastern Region.

Upon entering the Finance Department, Fennyery became a valued member of the team. Some of her tasks included updating the New Revenue Model to project if the hospital was hitting its budget, tracking patient charges, updating Provider numbers, and tracking patient visits.

Fennyery said in the newsletter that she also worked a lot with Microsoft Excel and learned how to analyze data and interpret Excel sheets. She also was able to build connections with many people employed at Wing Hospital and improved her communication skills.

"I felt very lucky to have been placed in the Finance Department and I could not have asked for a better experience," Fennyery said in a statement. "The internship helped me to decide to major in finance in the fall at UMass Amherst."

Krupczak worked her two semesters of Work-Based Learning as a sales intern for the Springfield Thunderbirds under Senior Account Executive Katie Force.

For at least seven hours a week, Krupczak reported to the MassMutual Center to work office hours and home games. She also learned how to deal directly with customers in a real sports business every day.

Regarding her experience, Krupczak said in a statement that she improved her "communication and people skills."

"I think I am more confident and more comfortable now that I have more knowledge and Experience in Sports Management," she said.

Going forward, Krupczak will pursue a career in sports management as a freshman at Springfield College in the fall and continue to intern with Force and the Thunderbirds throughout her college career.

Holland Annual Town Meeting and Election Calendar 2020

HOLLAND – For dropping off or picking up election materials, mandatory adherence to statewide COVID-19 restrictions, including proper use of PPE (personal protection equipment) and physical social distancing will be practiced.

TOWN ELECTION – Rescheduled for Tuesday June 30th, 2020*

Tuesday April 28, 2020: Starting date to obtain Nomination Papers, via USPS or call Town Clerk for social distancing pick up at Town Hall.

Tuesday May 12, 2020: 3:00PM deadline to file Nomination Papers with Town Clerk via Town Hall drop box or if mailing, papers need to be received today.

Thursday May 14, 2020: 3:00PM deadline to withdraw nomination papers via written notice in Town Hall drop box.

POSTPONED – Rescheduled TBD: Tuesday May 19, 2020, Town Meeting 7:00PM Elementary School.

Wednesday June 3, 2020: **Tentative date to start mailing out Early Voting Ballots. Requests must be in writing via USPS or Town Hall drop box.

Wednesday June 10, 2020: Last day to register to vote* for Town Election via USPS or call Town Clerk for social distancing pick up at Town Hall. The voting window is 20 days, until Monday June 29, 2020 – 3:00pm deadline to receive Early Voting Ballots**

Tuesday June 30, 2020: ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION 10:00AM - 8:00PM at the Community Center*** 40 Brimfield Rd., Holland.

The Town of Holland strongly recommends taking advantage mail in or drop off early voting procedures.


* As voted and approved by Holland Select Board on April 27th 2020 at 12:15pm to reschedule Town Election.

** Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all requests for voter registration and or early voting ballots will be managed via proper social distancing.

*** Mandatory adherence to statewide COVID-19 restrictions, including proper use of PPE (personal protection equipment) and physical social distancing will be followed.

On March 23, 2020 an emergency act of the legislature known as Chapter 45 of the Acts of 2020 was signed into law granting municipalities authority to postpone 2020 municipal elections in the Commonwealth, reduce hours of the Annual Town Election, reduce staff, and increase voting options in response to the Declaration of Emergency due to COVID-19.

-Office of the Town Clerk Holland, Mass. 01521 413-245-7108 x 102 or 111



TURTLE COUNT

Maire Materia from Palmer counted 10 turtles in the April 30th Journal Register.

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Journal Register

COVID-19 antibody test available in Springfield at American Family Care

SPRINGFIELD –American Family Care (AFC) has announced that its Springfield urgent care center at 415 Cooley St. is now offering the COVID-19 antibody test.

"The test will be able to tell if patients have antibodies to the novel coronavirus, which could indicate that they have had COVID-19 in the past," said Dr. Vincent Meoli, regional medical director of AFC. "The more information we have about who has been exposed, the more we will know about how much COVID-19 has spread through the population."

Dr. Meoli added, "It's important to note that a positive result to

the antibody test does not mean a patient has immunity. We don't know if patients can contract the virus again; that's still being studied."

The COVID-19 antibody test is only available at the Springfield AFC location. Appointments are not required. Results will be available to patients within a few days of testing as samples must be sent out to Quest Diagnostics. Patients requesting the test, which is typically covered by insurance, will be asked to complete a brief questionnaire about their symptoms prior to testing.

The West Springfield AFC

urgent care center at 18 Union Street is offering the rapid molecular diagnostic test for COVID-19, with results available on the same day. The diagnostic test requires that patients first schedule a virtual AFC TeleCare appointment to be approved for testing. The West Springfield location is currently open only for COVID-19 testing.

Both AFC locations, in Springfield and West Springfield, will return to their normal hours on Saturday, May 2: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. during the week and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.

Star Spangled Springfield postponed due to COVID-19

SPRINGFIELD – After careful consideration, the Spirit of Springfield, with the City of Springfield, has determined it is in the best interest of the community to postpone Star Spangled Springfield due to COVID-19. The event, sponsored by MassMutual, is being delayed from Saturday, July 4, 2020, to a date that has yet to be determined.

"Someone said to me, 'We need fireworks,' said Judy Matt, Spirit of Springfield President. "I agree 100%, but we must first think of the welfare and wellbeing of our community. When the time is right, we will be ready."

"It is the prudent and right

decision," said Springfield Mayor Domenic J. Sarno. "Once we defeat this COVID-19 Coronavirus, and we will, with the Spirit of Springfield, celebrate once again. Until then and out of an abundance of caution, we must continue to be proactive in starving this virus by following all of the local, state and federal public health guidelines as we begin to plan to return to a sense of normalcy within phases."

"MassMutual has been a proud sponsor of Springfield's Independence Day Celebration since 2006. We will continue to support the Spirit of Springfield and the event when our community is healthy and it is safe for us to gath-

er," said Dennis Duquette, Head of Community Responsibility, MassMutual, and President, MassMutual Foundation. "Springfield needs a reason to celebrate."

Star Spangled Springfield has been a celebration of the country's independence and a July 4th tradition since 1991. It has featured musical entertainment, family-friendly activities, and a world-class pyrotechnics display by Fireworks by Grucci. It has been sponsored by MassMutual since 2006, with additional support provided by area businesses.

For updates, follow Spirit of Springfield on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

National Arson Awareness Week is May 3-9

First Responders: Fire Investigations, Arson Laws and You!

State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey announced that National Arson Awareness Week is May 3-9, 2020. This year's theme, First Responders: Fire Investigations, Arson Laws and You!, highlights the crucial role that firefighters can play in a successful fire investigation. Firefighters are not just first responders to the fire, but to the fire investigation as well.

Firefighters are the eyes and ears of the professionals who investigate fires. As with any structure, the foundation is the most important part and firefighters lay the foundation for the scene examination. What they saw when they first responded to the fire, what suppression tactics they used, and what they observed after the fire, can all be useful clues for fire in-

vestigators. It is important for firefighters to understand that overhaul can affect the forensic fire scene examination. Delaying overhaul whenever possible until the fire investigators arrive on scene is helpful.

Firefighters can learn more about their important role in fire investigation at the U.S. Fire Administration's Arson Awareness Week webpage. The public can find information on how to prevent arson in their neighborhood by going to the Department of Fire Service's Arson Awareness Week webpage.

Team Concept of Fire Investigation Used in Massachusetts

Massachusetts has been using the team concept of fire investigation since the early 1980s. Specially trained State Police officers, assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, work collaboratively with local fire and police department investigators, and when appropriate, agents from the federal

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). This has increased the knowledge and awareness of frontline firefighters so they may be more keenly aware of what to look for and how their tactics can affect the fire investigation. Fire and police train together at both the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy and the National Fire Academy using the National Fire Protection Association Standard 921 for fire investigation. This training prepares them for the teamwork of a fire investigation.

Accelerant Detection Canines (AK9s)

The State Police Fire and Explosion Investigation Section, assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, has several teams of trained accelerant detection canines (AK9s) and handlers. These working dogs have noses that are over a hundred times more sensi-

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For program information call Gail (413) 283-2329, or reach her by e-mail at: gcarneiro@topfloorlearning.org

POSTPONEMENT:
We are so sorry but our May Scrabble Night and our May Basket Raffle will be postponed. At this time we are uncertain as to when they will be rescheduled.

TOP FLOOR LEARNING NEWS!

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Viewpoints

HISTORY MATTERS

Assessment shows history deficit in nation’s classrooms looms large

WASHINGTON, D.C. – What happened? Six years ago, the results of the National Assessment of Educational Progress revealed an impressive improvement in knowledge about American history, among elementary and middle-school students, but now, the 2018 tests, released last week, reveal that the apparent gain has slid to 1994 levels.

The Nation’s Report Card, as the assessment is known, shows that eighth graders’ awareness of key data crashed; between 2014 and 2018 their scores fell four points, from 267 to 263, out of a maximum 500.

“Considering the fact that 2014’s report seemed to offer hope, and the trajectory was rising, the four-point decrease was a surprise,” according to education advocate, David Bruce Smith.

Coincidentally, too many children, typically in grades 4 through 12, are essentially illiterate; enough to be a cause for alarm; it might be part of the reason for the decline. In fact, the U.S. Department of Education says “19 percent of high school graduates are functionally illiterate, which means they can’t read well enough to manage daily living and perform tasks required.”

“There seems to be a correlation between historical proficiency, and an over-the-top illiteracy rate. You absorb history mostly by reading, but if you have been lost in the system, it’s nearly impossible to learn the essentials about the past or the present.”

Education Secretary Betsy DeVos issued a statement after NAEP’s results were announced. As she put it: “America’s antiquated approach to education is creating a generation of future leaders who will not have a foundational understanding of what makes this country exceptional. We cannot continue to excuse this problem away. Instead, we need to fundamentally rethink education in America. It is the only way our students will be able to lead our nation and the world.

“The results are stark and inexcusable. A quarter or more of America’s eighth-graders are what NAEP defines as ‘below basic’ in U.S. history, civics and geography. In the real world, this means students don’t know what the Lincoln-Douglas debates were about, nor can they discuss the significance of the Bill of Rights or point out basic locations on a map. And only 15 percent of them have a reasonable knowledge of U.S. history. All Americans should take a moment to think about the concerning implications for the future of our country,” DeVos said.

Smith is co-founder of the Grateful American Book Prize, with the late Dr. Bruce Cole, former chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It was created to restore enthusiasm about American history, for kids and adults.

“Our goal has been to entice students to learn about the events and people who have shaped the nation; the best way, outside of a really competent teacher, is to energize authors to think up--captivating fiction and non-fiction--that appeal to adolescents, and stimulates commitments from publishers,” said Smith.

In My Backyard

By Ellenor Downer

Massachusetts Audubon Society reported two sandhill cranes in a field in Ashfield.

The sandhill crane is a heron-like bird that is about 45 inches long. It has a dark, red patch on its forehead. The feathers are gray with some rusty-colored ones on its back and wings. Preening its feathers with iron-laden mud possibly causes this.

Sandhill cranes form large flocks in winter and during migration. Courtship displays are often seen during migration and involve graceful leaps off the ground as if dancing. Sandhill cranes summer on prairies and tundra. In winter, they feed on agricultural fields.

West Brookfield birds

A West Brookfield resident said she had “yellow” goldfinches, bluebirds, cardinals, red-winged blackbirds, blue jays and lots of woodpeckers. She has a sanctuary in her backyard. She said she also saw a fisher cat under her window and it took one of her chickens. She wanted to warn residents to keep their cats indoors due to the fisher cats. She also has a fox with kits.

Barre birds

A Barre couple took a walk

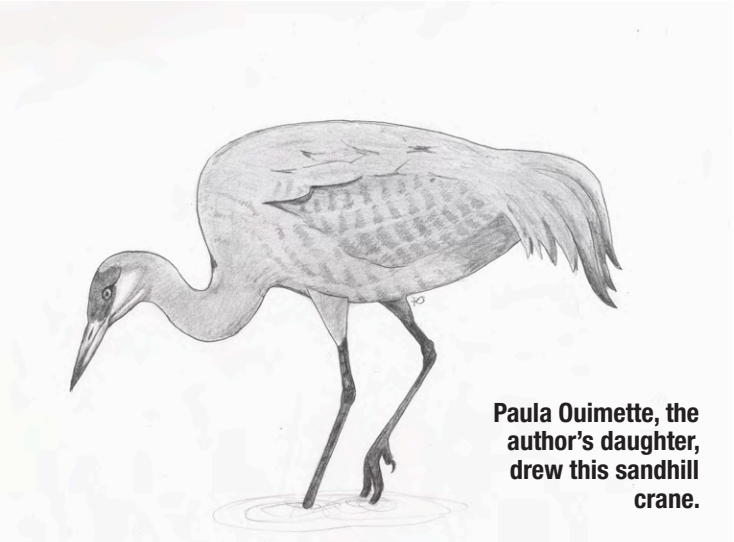
and saw a flock of red-winged blackbirds at the swampy area on Gilbert Road not too far from the intersection of Gilbert and Phillipston Roads. She said, “They were beautiful. I had not seen a flock of them before.”

Oakham resident

I received an email from an Oakham resident. She said, “I am enjoying the birds, by watching them and listening to them sing. On nice days, I have been opening my windows to let the fresh air in. Today my windows are closed, but I can hear still them sing in between the wind gusts. Wow, the winds really picked up at noon. I hope we make it through this storm without any power outages.” She also said, “I am staying at home, not going anywhere. Being at home, I am also enjoying my springtime flowers. Over the past month, I got to watch them pop up out of the ground and now they are blooming. I have bold bright yellow with the daffodils and the forsythia, and tiny purple flowers here and there.”

Ware resident

A Ware resident has been attracting birds for 30-plus years at his home about a mile from Windsor Dam. He has open field, pine groves and deciduous trees around his house, as well

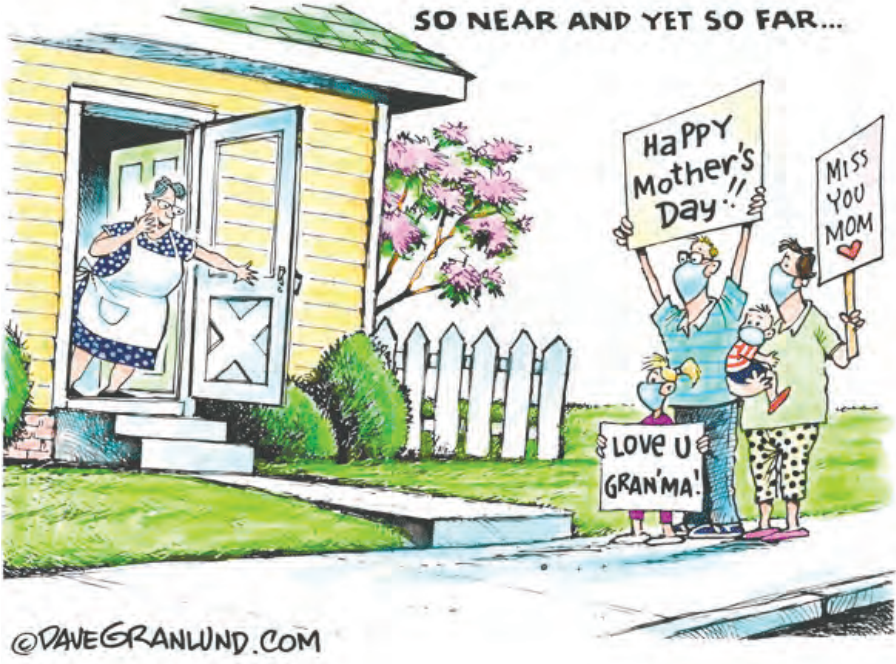


Paula Ouimette, the author's daughter, drew this sandhill crane.

as a brook. The different habitats attract many different bird varieties including: juncos, robins, chickadees, tufted titmice, goldfinch, grackles, hairy woodpeckers, red-breasted woodpeckers, downy woodpeckers, pileated woodpeckers, pine warblers, white-breasted nuthatch, phoebes, purple finches, chipping sparrows, house sparrows, brown creeper, cerulean warbler, bluebird, red-breasted nuthatch, hawks, turkeys and more. He has about 40 turkeys in his yard from October until about April, then they return to the woods.

Juncos and hummingbirds

The last day I saw a dark-



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Why I think of asparagus on Mother’s Day

It was four years ago that I got asparagus crowns for Mother’s Day! When I think back I laugh on the inside thinking of just how perfect a gift it was. Some women get jewelry and I get asparagus. Good thing my husband knows that I wouldn’t have wanted it any other way. Just yesterday we walked around the yard and remarked at the tiny spears popping up; it was honestly a very nice memory associated with a special day. In the event you are the lucky recipient of asparagus crowns this Sunday, or if you are simply in the market to install a bed of this vegetable, read on.

Once asparagus is planted it will return, season after season for many years, perhaps 20 or more. Keep this in mind when choosing the location of your asparagus patch...you may have to live with your decision a long time. Some gardeners prefer to prepare a site separate from the vegetable garden while others locate it within the main gardening space. Each has its pros and cons. With the later approach, the bed can be inspected during the entire growing season, not only when the plants are productive. If you take this approach keep in mind that the ferny foliage gets quite tall by summer, so site it in the northern most row of the garden so that it won’t shade out other plants. By planting the asparagus in a separate location you can also better cater to the plants’ unique needs.

In order to thrive, asparagus plants require full sun, fertile soil, a neutral pH, and a weed-free bed. If time allows prepare the site in the fall prior to spring planting by removing the sod from grassy areas and by making the necessary adjustments to the soil with the addition of lime and balanced organic fertilizers. A soil test will determine accurate amounts for your site.

Once asparagus crowns have been purchased you shouldn’t wait too long to plant them or they will dry out. At first look, the roots look like fleshy white tentacles of an octopus radiating out from its head! If planting ASAP is unlikely store them in moist sphagnum moss until you are able to get them in the ground. New

advice recommends planting the crowns in trenches 8 to 10 inches deep. It is helpful to incorporate additional lime and bone meal thoroughly into the bottom of the planting furrow. Set plants on small mounds of soil 12 to 18 inches apart in the row and cover with 2 inches of soil. As the spears poke through this first layer of soil and begin to fern out, gradually fill in the trench with a mixture of soil and finished compost. It should take six weeks for the furrow to be completely filled in. Water regularly and topdress with fertilizer in August of the first year and every spring thereafter. A

thick application of compost at this time will also enhance fertility, while liming annually will help keep the pH neutral.

New studies indicate that spears can be harvested for a week long period the year after planting. Simply cut with a sharp knife at the soil surface. The following year expand your harvest to four weeks; by year three a full harvest season of eight weeks is possible. After harvest let the foliage grow, once winter killed it can be cut back and removed from the garden site in case it harbors insect eggs. Good hygiene and hand picking will reduce populations of the asparagus beetle and other culprits of the asparagus patch.

My husband lovingly broke his back helping me clear the sod and remove the stones, shall I say boulders, from the area destined to be the asparagus patch. Maybe by Sunday the spears will be tall enough to harvest, that would be neat, indeed. And what about this year’s gift? Well along the same theme I have a project up my sleeve. A new picket fence perhaps!

Here’s wishing everyone out there a Happy Mother’s Day!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

IN THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid Columnist

Early May daze

Rainy weather and cooler than usual temperatures during these early May 2020 days are showing some appearances of spring. Well, somewhat. Yet, what brightens us up even more than our surrounding circumstances is the chance to celebrate unique and special days.

May’s early calendar dates give us exceptional reasons to recognize “National Teachers Day” on May 5, and “Nurses Day” on May 6. Then on May 8 there’s “Day Care Provider Day” and “Military Spouses Day.”

Also it’s surprising to learn from Holiday Insights, that May 9 is, “Lost Sock Memorial Day.” Strange as it seems, “Clean up Your Room Day” is on May 10 — the same day as “Mother’s Day.” Curiosity asks: “Is it a Mom’s mantra to clean up your room? If rooms were cleaned first, wouldn’t that help solve the lost sock issues?”

Since all socks on the home front are happily paired, and the clean-up-your-room pleas have happened non-stop since the 2020 COVID-19 incubation, with what breath was left, a family member asked, “What else do you want this year for Mother’s Day?”

Feeling that a response was the perfect time to show that “Grammar Doodles” was up to speed with knowing a few of the latest hot-topic terms, she replied. “First, I’d like to ‘slow the spread’ when shopping by wearing an XL, wrap-around, Glad-Guard garbage bag.”

“That’ll be an interesting sight ...”

“Second, I need to be wrapped tight so as to ‘flatten the curve.’”

“That’ll be a squeal deal.”

“Could we find color-coordinated boots, gloves, and a mask? I’ve got a straw hat.”

“I’ll have to go online ...”

“Lines? Talk about lines? All stores have aisle lines of ‘social distance’ shoppers trying to follow one-way arrows!”

“Yup.”

“I’ll be s-o-o grateful to be stay and play outdoors; away from my personal pan-n-n-demic.”

“What? Wha-da-ya mean?”

“I’m not complaining. I’m thankful for food to cook. But, it seems like over these past six weeks of our staying in — that I’ve made and served gazillions of meals and desserts. I’ve seen stacked dishes. (Sigh) Peaked flatware. Skillets. Crockpot. Steamer. Plus — pots and pans.”

“And?”

While The Hub comfortably sat down to use his iPhone to place an online order, the Mom snuggled beside him asking, “Do you think you could find me a book on-line too?”

“Sure!” “What’s the title?”

“Novel Virus.”

These recent months, weeks, days and hours can befuddle and bewilder us. Finding glimpses of humor in everyday issues and circumstances can help us get over those thump bumps — especially during our early May daze.

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Election letters to the editor welcome

The Journal Register welcomes readers to participate in this year’s election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to dfarmer@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday’s newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Douglas Farmer at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor’s Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact Lisa Marulli, 413-283-8393 or lmarrulli@turley.com, about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to: The Journal Register Letter to the Editor 24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069, or by e-mail to: dfarmer@turley.com

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

The Journal Register

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TOURISM | from page 1

"We get 60 percent of our visitation from Memorial Day to Labor Day," Doleva said, noting the shutdown will have a "significant effect" on the Hall. "People have a thirst for sports and doing things that aren't necessarily crowds."

He said with the Hall of Fame, trade shows and other leisure activities closed or canceled for the immediate future, the impact has and will trickle into other businesses. Without assistance, he estimates as much as 40 percent of local restaurants may not recover from the shutdown.

"This was a thriving sector," Lesser said, noting the impact was sudden and immediate. "This was speeding along the highway and slamming on the brakes."

'Pent-Up Demand'

Wydra said that some are projecting the economic hit to the travel and tourism sector could be as high as nine to 11 times worse than that experienced in the aftermath of 9/11. In Western Mass., she said the busiest months are May, August and September. At least for now, scheduled events have already been canceled into August.

"We are anticipating pent-up demand," Wydra said, expressing her hope that once businesses are allowed to re-open, spending will resume.

GSCVB, Wydra said, is approaching the recovery in three phases: Inspire, Inquire and Explore. They are currently in the Inspire phase, where the organization is trying to get people to think about Western Mass and the varied attractions in Downtown Springfield as well as the outdoor recreation opportunities up and down the Pioneer Valley. With May 3-9 being National Tourism Week, she said the organization has created postcards promoting the region and are in the process of developing a video. The marketing and promotional materials will promote Western Mass. in the New York and Boston markets, which compete with the Pioneer Valley for tourism dollars.

With the Inquire phase, she said they anticipate folks will begin to travel and spend their dollars close to home, and ultimately, get out and explore the region once more.

Doleva said one way folks can help the local economy is through booking events in the region, looking at the fall and next summer when life is likely to normalize. Wydra said individuals can try to help businesses at the cash register, utilizing the limited services available, as "everyone has bills to pay."

Opportunity

Lesser told Turley Publications that the closures are designed to help prevent the spread of the new coronavirus, but all government officials must work to ensure necessary aid reaches the people most in need.

"We need to avoid temporary closures from becoming permanent," he said. "I know how urgent this is and we are doing everything we possibly can."

Lesser said his focus has been on helping communities and businesses get the resources they need to get through. A challenge, he noted, is that there are parallel crises – health and economic – and there is a need to address both at the state level. While there is a "deep and very severe recession," he said he and his colleagues are working together to ensure communities and businesses receive the resources they need to rebuild on both fronts.

"We're going to work together and we're going to overcome," Lesser said. "This is a moment of great test and consequence to our whole world."

During the live stream session, Doleva said the shutdown poses an opportunity for the region and state to respond together and rebuild.

"I think this is an opportunity to show your colleagues and demonstrate to all the citizens of the State how important hospitality and tourism is because it has a lot of jobs, it drives a lot of tax revenue," he said. "This is a real time as we come out of this that we can elevate the respect of the hospitality and tourism industry."

ARRESTS | from page 1

right to bail and was transported to the Hampden County House of Correction.

Sweet was held on a \$1,040 cash bail and was transported to the Hampden County Women's Correctional Center.

Both will appear for future arraignments in Palmer District Court, according to Valadas.

Based on probable cause, Sweet was charged with the following crimes: OUI Drugs (Narcotic Analgesic); possession of a Class A substance (heroin); possession of a Class B substance (crack cocaine); and two counts of reckless endangerment of a child.

Based on probable cause, Smola was arrested and charged with furnishing false identification to law enforcement and a warrant arrest.

SUMMERFEST | from page 1

desire to offer this Fourth of July celebration that over the years has become a part of Monson's culture.

If anyone is interested in becoming a member of the Monson Summerfest, Inc. Committee, please contact the group by mail at Monson Summerfest, Inc. PO Box 113 Monson, MA 01057 or contact them on their website: www.monsonsummerfestinc.com

Monson Town Election set for June 9th

By Elise Linscott
elinscott@turley.com

that people will feel safe when they're voting.

The following is a list of candidates and available seats:

Board of Selectmen:

(1 seat for 3 years)

Charles P. Cournoyer

Mary Kathleen Hull

Robert E. Kaddy

Jessy D. Shea

Town Clerk:

(1 seat for 3 years)

Mary-Frances Watson

(Candidate for Re-Election)

Board of Assessors:

(1 seat for 3 years)

Ronald R. Avery, Jr.

(Candidate for Re-Election)

School Committee:

(1 seat for 3 years)

Kathryn T. Peterson

Jessy D. Shea

Water/Sewer Commission

(1 seat for 3 years)

Candidate did not return papers

Cemetery Commission

(1 seat for 3 years)

No one took out papers

Parks and Recreation Commission

(1 seat for 3 years)

No one took out papers

Housing Authority

(1 seat for 5 years)

Candidate did not return papers

The deadline to register to vote for this election is May 20, 2020. Residents can go to the following site to register to vote online at: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/Welcome.aspx> or print the voter registration and send by mail.

Holland resident appointed manager at Big Y in Conn.

SPRINGFIELD – The management of Big Y Foods, Inc. on May 1st announced the following new appointments:

Employees with Massachusetts hometowns:

From Holland: Carl A. Holmes, Store Manager, Big Y Express, Manchester, Conn.

From Sturbridge: Krysten M. Nunes, Deli Buyer/Coordinator, Store Support Center, Springfield, Mass.

According to Michael J. Galat, vice president employee services, "At Big Y, we are committed to providing the tools and training necessary to support our employees in their development. We look forward to their growth in the pursuit of excellence as they personally develop their own skills in order to take on these new levels of responsibility."

Sunshine and flipflops.

horoscopes

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to Mother's Day.

Each number corresponds to a letter.

(Hint: 6 = o)

A. 22 6 9 13 23 21

Clue: Female parent

B. 26 16 19 9

Clue: Present

C. 13 6 20 6 21

Clue: Show respect for

D. 19 4 6 3 23 21 14

Clue: Colorful blooms

Answers: A. mother B. gift C. honor D. flowers

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Mother's Day.

N L C H U



Answer: Lunch

Guess Who?

I am an R&B singer born in Michigan on May 13, 1950. At a young age, I suffered an illness that led to blindness. That didn't stop me from signing with Motown Records at age 11. I have recorded more than thirty top 10 hits during my career.

Answer: Stevie Wonder

MOTHER'S DAY WORD SEARCH

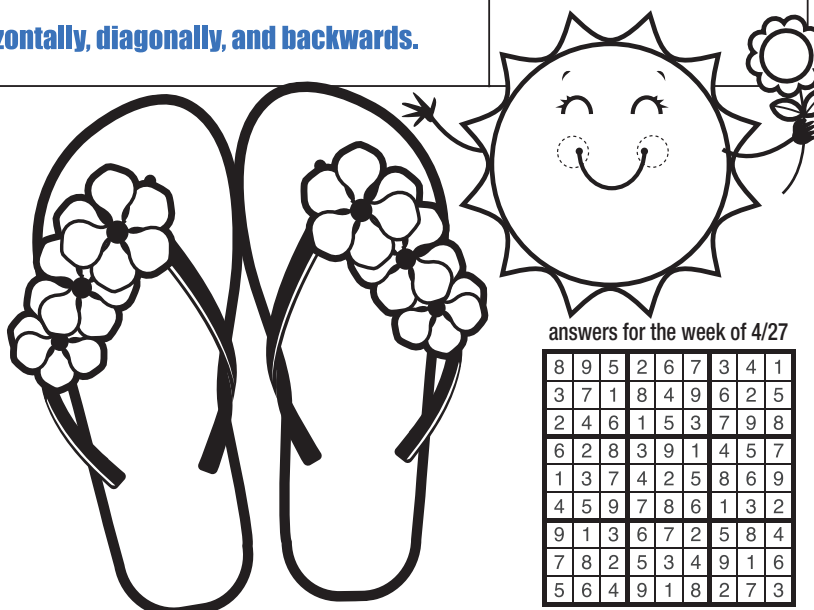
N B L N Y B M P R E S E N T S L B S R C
M A Y V B O H O V V A L H R S L D T T L
D M Q S C F L C T D T G W P E N V N F M
O K V S E E A Q H I W O G F F S E D T
L B E V M K S V N Q E I H G V G E R L E
C N R N T M A A O R L R K G N C K A O U
R G K E N C A A C L E H R I F S P P L Q
R E R T A E O M D W B T T M P P H M B U
C L H C R K R Y A W O F A T E E F E E O
V D N T U F F D B E I H T M Y C M P D B
A K G T O R P A L G U E S T V I E H E B
Q Q Q T O M B Q S I K D P A U A A D C I
Q T R H N H D W I T H S L E B L L W D F
M V D K C E Y N A G E C A R W K N P R L
K N C E R A W F A S M F H T C I V G L C
H M Y O D K W Q O R K A D A D O P T E D
Q O N N W K P R W T G T S W H P Y A O Q
L O U H C V A U I W A W G T B C Y M L O
H S P B A B Y F A V O R I T E S U M O M
M D K W H E O U I E T H H C H M P H E P

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

ADOPTED
BOUQUET
BREAKFAST
CHILDREN
FAVORITES
GIFTING
GRANDMOTHER
HONORED
LOVE
MAMA
MATERNAL
MAY
MEAL
MOM
MOTHER
MUM
PARENT
PRESENTS
ROSES
SHOWCASE
SPECIAL
SPOIL
SUNDAY
TREAT

		5					1
4	1			2	5		6
	3	8			6		5
8	5			7		9	4
	9		1	8		6	2
							1
3			5		1		
	8	4	2	6			7
1	2	9	7				



answers for the week of 4/27

8	9	5	2	6	7	3	4	1
3	7	1	8	4	9	6	2	5
2	4	6	1	5	3	7	9	8
6	2	8	3	9	1	4	5	7
1	3	7	4	2	5	8	6	9
4	5	9	7	8	6	1	3	2
9	1	3	6	7	2	5	8	4
7	8	2	5	3	4	9	1	6
5	6	4	9	1	8	2	7	3

ANSWERS WILL BE IN NEXT WEEKS PAPERS

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Wildlife Visitors

Ruth DiCristoforo of Monson, the photographer behind RAD Images, said that lately, her family has been having daily wildlife visitors outside their house.

“I thought I would share some uplifting (I hope) photos of some very welcomed daily COVID-19 visitors,” DiCristoforo said. “They come and go every day, spending time at our front yard birdfeeders, providing a lot of enjoyment to us from inside the house.”



American Grey and American Red Squirrels. Photo by RAD Images.



An American Robin. Photo by RAD Images.



An American Tree Sparrow. Photo by RAD Images.



A Downy Woodpecker. Photo by RAD Images.



Cardinals RAD Images: Two Cardinals. Photo by RAD Images.



An Eastern Bluebird. Photo by RAD Images.



An Eastern Chipmunk. Photo by RAD Images.



A House Finch. Photo by RAD Images.

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A Morning Dove. Photo by RAD Images.



A male American Goldfinch. Photo by RAD Images.

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ARSON | from page 3

tive than the human sense of smell and are trained to detect all types of ignitable liquids that could be used to start or spread a fire. The dogs are trained using a “food reward” method. They are hand fed small amounts of food many times a day after detecting ignitable liquids during training or at a fire scene. The dogs and their handlers work or train every day and never get a day off.

551 Arsons - 134 Structures, 78 Vehicles, 339 Other Arsons

In 2018, 551 arson fires were reported to the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System, accounting for 2% of total fires. The 134 structure arsons, 78 motor vehicle arsons, and 339 outside and other arsons caused four civilian deaths (accounting for 9% of civilian fire deaths), one fire service death, 13 civilian injuries and 43 fire service injuries. The estimated property loss from arson was \$5.5 million.



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REGION

Summer leagues now coming into question

Following the closure of spring sports, many summer leagues are being forced to do the same

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – In just a short period of time, the landscape of even summer sports has now changed with a number of baseball leagues cancelling play and others postponed indefinitely while the leagues wait out the “surge.”

But in the case of some very talented athletes, the 2020 baseball season has been completely shuttered.

First, it was the postponement of Major League Baseball along with the complete cancellation of spring sports for the collegiate level. Now, two of the most prominent college leagues have cancelled their seasons for the summer, citing the risks involved for the league as a

leaves no opportunities for teams to play at all in the 2020 season. The summer leagues, like college season were often an additional place for star athletes to get exposure, play against some of the best competition in the country, and receive additional looks for scouts from the major leagues.

The cancellation of baseball has also filtered down to the high school and youth levels as well.

With parks and recreation activities shut down, baseball and softball is shut down at the youth level. Spring sports were cancelled last week at the high school level, and even recreational softball leagues have been completely shut down. There are still some leagues that are hopeful.

Like high school athletic directors, many recreational leagues have begun making shortened schedules or modified schedules that would accommodate play once fields are opened up.

However, as the surge remains present in Massachusetts, it is hard to forecast when play in many leagues will open up.



The Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League is still hoping to have its regular season, though it may be delayed.

week of June.

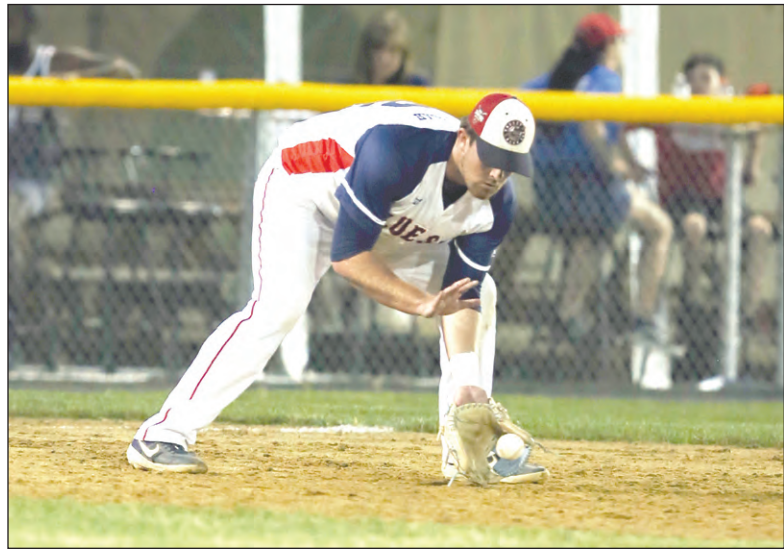
Depending on how the re-opening plan is phased, there is still a possibility of that, or a better possibility of the season going deeper into the summer.

One league that teenagers were hopeful would not be cancelled is American Legion baseball. However, that may be the case after the chairman of District 3 recommended the season be cancelled. Most area teams, such as Agawam, Belcher-town, Wilbraham, Aldenville, and Monson play in District 3. There are also several Junior Legion teams in the area, with Holyoke set to rejoin

the ranks.

The American Legion had cancelled its regional and national tournaments, but there was hope its regular season would take place in areas that were deemed safe from major coronavirus outbreaks. The national tournament was set to take place late in the summer in North Carolina.

The stay-at-home advisory along with the non-essential business closure remains in effect through May 18. It is not known if the order will be lifted, but a re-opening plan is supposed to be submitted by a committee on that date.



College baseball will not be played in the area as the NECBL cancelled its season. The Valley Blue Sox are based in Holyoke.

whole.

The Cape Cod Baseball League and the New England Collegiate Baseball League have cancelled their 2020 campaigns, which were set to start in June. The cancellation

The Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League is open to holding a modified schedule if needed, but it is also still holding out hope to holding its regular season as scheduled. The season typically starts in the third



American Legion baseball is also in danger of being cancelled this summer.



Recreational leagues like the Valley Wheel Baseball League and the Quabbin Valley League are all on hold waiting to see if Massachusetts “re-opens.”

FROM THE HEART

T-Birds Foundation announces fundraising drive

SPRINGFIELD – Today, the Springfield Thunderbirds Foundation announced the start of its “From the Heart” campaign, which will feed essential workers at non-profits, medical facilities, and public safety organizations over the coming ten weeks. The campaign kicked off today with monetary donations of \$500 to both the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts and Holyoke Medical Center. Holyoke Medical Center will use the funds to purchase food for its medical staff.

“We are excited to announce our ‘From the Heart’ campaign and we are honored to support our first two recipients. Food insecurity during this time is a serious issue and the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts is leading the charge to combat this across the region. Holyoke Medical Center has also stepped up in a big way for the res-

idents of Holyoke and has gone the extra mile in treating our Vets in the Holyoke Soldier’s Home. We are truly grateful for all these two organizations are doing for our community,” said Nathan Costa, President of the Springfield Thunderbirds.

The announcement of the “From the Heart” campaign comes on the heels of successful food deliveries to Mercy and Baystate Medical Centers in mid-April. Stephen Cincotta, a member of the Thunderbird’s local ownership group, saw the impact these donations had on frontline medical staff and reached out to the T-Birds Foundation with a generous donation to extend the program to other organizations in western Massachusetts.

“When I saw the reaction of the doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff to the food deliveries and their pictures with Boomer, I knew we could be doing more to spread a

little joy and good will to others on the front lines of this pandemic. I am proud to support the work of the T-Bird’s Foundation and grateful to the men and women who are working every day to keep us safe from harm,” said Cincotta, President and CEO of Clinical Research Management Group (CRMG).

With the campaign’s launch, the T-Bird’s Foundation will deliver food to a new organization each week for the next ten weeks to thank front-line workers making an impact in the community. The Foundation broadened the reach of its program to recognize the many diverse fields that are contributing the fight against COVID-19.

“During this time of great need in our region, we are extremely grateful to the support we have received across the community to help our neighbors at risk of hunger,” said Jillian Morgan, Corpo-

rate Relations Officer for the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. “The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts remains committed to feeding all of our neighbors in need and is taking proactive steps to protect those who rely on our services. Your support keeps meals on the table during these challenging times.”

Meals will be sourced from many of the T-Birds corporate partners, including the 99 Restaurant & Pub, Buffalo Wild Wings, Theodore’s Boozie, Blues & BBQ, Crazy Jake’s, Frigo’s Foods, Texas Roadhouse, Burger King, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Dunkin’ Donuts and Nathan Bill’s Bar & Restaurant.

Individuals interested in supporting the campaign can contribute to the Thunderbirds’ Foundation directly: <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/3391100>.

HIGH SCHOOL

2020

SPRING SPOTLIGHT

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Senior athletes to be highlighted in coming weeks

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The Turley Publications sports department is looking to honor the senior athletes who have had their spring seasons cancelled by the coronavirus pandemic.

Over the next several weeks, the sports section will have stories and photos about the various spring sports teams that were never even able to have a practice, and eventually saw their full season cancelled.

We will be talking with spring coaches and athletic directors, but would also love to hear from senior

players about their feelings about the spring season being cancelled.

We hope to also publish action photos of seniors from previous seasons, though parents and coaches are encouraged to send photos of seniors they would like to see published in the upcoming editions of the paper.

All submissions can be made to Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at sports@turley.com. In the subject line, please identify the school and sport you are writing in about. Senior athletes are also encouraged to write in to talk about the season that wasn’t.

COLLEGE

NECBL cancels 2020 season

The Valley Blue Sox play their home games in Holyoke

NORTH ADAMS – The New England Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL) has announced that its board of directors, comprised of executives from its 13 member teams and officers, have voted to cancel the 2020 summer collegiate baseball season.

This decision was reached after a careful and thoughtful review of the guidance from federal, state and local officials, the leadership of our host communities, and recommendations from the CDC and medical community. The conclusion was that canceling the 2020 season was necessary for the health, safety and well-being of our players, coaches, umpires, volunteers, fans and host families.

We understand that this decision will result in hardship and disappointment to our student-athletes who have already lost their college spring baseball season. For this reason, it breaks our hearts and runs counter to our competitive instincts and spirit. However, our first priority and obligation must always be the health and well-being of our players and our community. We promise to use this time out, and all of our resources, to make our 2021

season something truly special for our players, coaches and fans.

We are part of the communities that host our member teams. We encourage our teams, as organizations, individually and working with their volunteers, to support community first responders and their local business sponsors, many of whom are restaurants that are going through difficult financial times. To show our appreciation to our host communities and supporters, we will dedicate Opening Day 2021 in each of our venues to thank, honor and support community organizations and first responders who serve on the front lines of combating COVID-19.

The New England Collegiate Baseball League is a wooden bat college summer league that fields teams in all six New England states. Partially funded by Major League Baseball, the NECBL started play in 1994 and enjoyed its 25th-year anniversary season last summer. The New England League has sent over 150 alumni to the Major Leagues and has had nearly 100 alumni drafted in each of the last 10 Major League Baseball Drafts.

The Valley Blue Sox are the main local team to Western Massachusetts in the NECBL. The Blue Sox have won two league championship in 2017 and 2018, and were in the semifinal round in 2019.

REGION

Claremont Speedway event cancelled

REGION – Tri Track Open Modified Series officials announced on Saturday, in collaboration with Claremont Speedway, that the event originally scheduled for May 24 will not happen as scheduled. New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu released new guidance for the state on Friday that will not allow gath-

erings to occur for the race event. The Tri Track Open Modified Series continues to keep the safety of our race teams, drivers, staff and fans in mind with decisions. We will provide additional guidance around the 2020 schedule once it is available. Our intention is to hit the track for action this season.”

Sign-ups on hold for Quabbin League

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for 2020 season. The league has six teams, several with open roster spots. Last year, the league voted to allow players age 28 and 29 to be able to join the league, though players under 30 are not eligible to pitch. The cost of the league this season is \$192. For returning and new players, sign-ups have been placed on hold until a determination has been made on the season going forward. The league is

hopefully to begin play sometime in June or July. The season is 15 regular season games plus at least one playoff game. A modified schedule is being worked on by league officials. Games are nine innings and metal (BBCOR -3) or wood bats are allowed. Fields locations are throughout Western Mass. For more information on the league, or if you are interested in registering, go to <https://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org/>. The league is also in Facebook.

Police/Fire

Police Logs

PALMER
The Palmer Police Department responded to 282 incidents from April 27 through May 5. The department made nine arrests or summons. Those arrested will appear in Palmer District Court at a future date and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, April 28

Andrew Travis Garcias, 19, of 2559 Boston Road, Wilbraham, was arrested at 3:33 a.m. on Wilbraham Street in Palmer, on charges of operating under the influence of liquor; negligent operation of a motor vehicle; minor transporting/carrying/possessing an alcoholic beverage; speeding rate of speed greater than what was reasonable and proper; and a marked lanes violation.

Tiana Ivette Rodriguez, 26, of 662 Bradley Rd., Springfield, was arrested at Ware Street in Thorn-dike on charges operating under the influence of liquor; negligent operation of a motor vehicle; a marked lanes violation; and the possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

Wednesday, April 29

Juvenile Arrest, 16, arrested at 5:29 p.m. in Palmer for walking/riding on a railroad track.

Fire Logs

PALMER
The Palmer Fire Department responded to a total of 12 calls from April 29 through May 4.

On Wednesday, April 29, at 12:18 p.m., the department responded to an unauthorized burning on Orchard Street. The department returned to service at 12:41 p.m.

On Wednesday, April 29, at 10:18 p.m., the department responded to a motor vehicle accident on Ware Street. The department returned to service at 11:35 p.m.

On Thursday, April 30, at 11:30 a.m., the department responded to an unauthorized burning on Stimson Street. The department returned to service at 12:35 p.m.

On Thursday, April 30, at 2:00 p.m., the department responded to a structure fire on Spring Street and provided mutual aid to the Warren Fire Department. The department returned to service at 2:43 p.m.

On Saturday, May 2, at 11:24 a.m., the department responded to a call on North Main Street. No incident was found at the dispatched address and the department returned to service at 11:26 a.m.

On Saturday, May 2, at 11:37 a.m., the department responded to an alarm activation on Central Street. The department returned to service

at 11:44 a.m.

On Saturday, May 2, at 2:36 p.m., the department responded to a smoke detector malfunction on Squire Street. The department returned to service at 2:57 p.m.

On Saturday, May 2, at 10:02 p.m., the department provided medical assistance on South Main Street. The department returned to service at 10:22 p.m.

On Sunday, May 3, at 8:59 p.m., the department provided medical assistance on Old Warren Road. The department returned to service at 9:19 p.m.

On Monday, May 4, at 10:34 a.m., the department provided public service at Beverley Street. The department returned to service at 10:46 a.m.

On Monday, May 4, at 1:40 p.m., the department conducted an odor investigation on Beech Street. The department returned to service at 2:23 p.m.

On Monday, May 4, at 3:22 p.m., the department provided station coverage on Wales Road for the Brimfield Fire Department. The department returned to service at 6:15 p.m.

THREE RIVERS
The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to no calls this week.

BONDSDVILLE
The Bondsville Fire Department responded to no calls this week.

MONSON
The Monson Fire & Emergency Services Department responded to 18 EMS calls and four fire calls from April 27 through May 3.

On Wednesday, April 29, at 2:38 p.m., the department responded to 302 Stafford Rd. for a brush fire. The department returned to service at 3:52 p.m.

On Saturday, May 2, at 11:45 a.m., the department conducted a smoke investigation at 35 Circle Dr. The department returned to service at 12:15 p.m.

On Sunday, May 3, at 3:10 p.m., the department responded to the area of Morse Crossing for a smoking branch on wires. The department returned to service at 3:35 p.m.

On Sunday, May 3, at 7:35 p.m., the department responded to 19 Elm St. for a mobile home fire. The department returned to service at 8:45 p.m.

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FINANCIAL FOCUS

How Should Millennials Respond to Market Decline?

The coronavirus crisis has unsettled every age group, as we are all worried about our health and that of our families and communities. And if you're in the millennial generation, generally defined as anyone born between 1981 and 1996, you might also be concerned about your financial future, given the sharp decline in investment prices. How should you respond to what's been happening?

Your view of the current situation will depend somewhat on your age. If you're an older millennial, you had probably been investing for a few years when we went through the financial crisis in 2007-2008. And you then experienced 11 years of a record bull market, so you've seen both the extremes and the resilience of the investment world. But if you're a younger millennial, you might not have really started investing until the past few years, if you've started at all, so you've only seen a steadily climbing market. Consequently, you may find the current situation particularly discouraging, but this is also a lesson in the reality of investing: Markets go down as well as up.

But no matter where you are within the millennial age cohort, you might help yourself by taking these steps:


Enjoy the benefit of having time on your side. If you're one of the younger millennials, you've got about four decades left until you're close to retiring. Even if you're in the older millennial group, you've probably got at least 25 years until you stop working. With so many years ahead, you have the opportunity to overcome the periodic drops in investment prices, and your investments have time to grow. And, of course, you'll be able to add more money into those investments, too.

Invest systematically. The value of your investments will always fluctuate. You can't control these price movements, but you may be able to take advantage of them through what's known as systematic investing. By putting the same amount of money at regular intervals into the same investments, you'll buy more shares when the share price is lower – in other words, you'll be "buying low," which is one of the first rules of investing – and you'll buy fewer shares when the price rises. Over time, this strategy can help you reduce the impact of volatility on your portfolio, although it can't ensure a profit or protect against loss. Plus, systematic investing can give you a sense of discipline, though you'll need to consider the ability to keep investing when share prices are declining.

Focus on the future. You're never really investing for today – you're doing it to reach goals in the future, sometimes just a few years away, but usually much further out. That's why it's so important not to panic when you view those scary headlines announcing big drops in the financial markets, or even when you see negative results in your investment statements. By creating an investment strategy that's appropriate for your risk tolerance and time horizon, and by focusing on your long-term goals, you can develop the discipline to avoid making hasty, ill-advised decisions during times of stress.

As a millennial, you've got a long road ahead of you as you navigate the financial markets. But by following the suggestions above, you may find that journey a little less stressful.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor: Edward Jones, Member SIPC



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

MONSON | from page 4

but the momentum quickly grew and expanded to other areas of the country. Within a day of starting the page, Rondeau said that around 20 seniors from Palmer and Monson joined the group. As of May 4th, over 4,956 people have become members of the group.

"We've spread. We originally were in Monson, now we're all over the country," said Rondeau. "There are posts coming from Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, California, Florida. It keeps getting shared and people are really interested in making a difference for these young people's lives."

Although this page is dedicated to seniors in high school, not every member who's joined is one. Since the title of the Facebook page involves "adopting," the first person to comment under a senior's bio can "adopt" them, and within a week or two do something to acknowledge them.

These acknowledgements have ranged from sending gift baskets and gift cards to professional photographers offering to do senior photos. The page's moderator, Tracey Howell, said that some members have even offered to help seniors with their resumes.

Although the group has grown rapidly, Rondeau said that many local businesses have continued to support seniors locally, and from the start of this group, have encouraged members who are planning to buy a gift for their adopted senior to support local businesses.

One of the businesses supporting graduating seniors is Wilbraham restaurant Pafumi's to Go, which has created a "brighten a seniors day" surprise pack that includes a medium pizza, two liter bottle of soda, homemade chips, along with cupcakes from Wilbraham restaurant Theme Cakes by Jolene, a balloon and card for \$35. Demore's Automotive Repair in Palmer is also offering the students free safety checks and discounted services.

As of May 4th, Rondeau said that every teen so far has been adopted and are only allowed to be gifted once, per site rules. She also said that she and Howell decided the Facebook page will be around for another month. To join the group and see if there are new high school seniors looking to be adopted, visit <https://rb.gy/dc89x7>.

FARMERS MARKET | from page 1

the town's Board of Health went to the market on opening day to make sure safety protocols were being followed. There are currently no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in town, although about 50 people were tested, and there have been no reported deaths in Brimfield as a result of the disease, he said.

The beautiful weather over the past couple weekends may have also helped encourage community members to visit the market, Skowyrza said.

"A lot of people are thanking us for being open," she said. "They're very happy to have that resource; they said they'd rather go there than to a grocery store. There are some people who are very cautious who don't seem as worried (about going to the farmer's market). But everyone's been cooperative in terms of maintaining social distancing and wearing masks. There was only one person who gave us a hard time and an attitude, but generally people have been good about it."

Skowyrza said she's been updating the market's Facebook page to let people know which vendors and products will be available for sale each Saturday.

"We're now going into week three; we're just asking people to adhere to the rules that have been laid out for us," she said. "We're following all those guidelines to keep everyone safe as much as we possibly can. We just hope people understand that and cooperate."

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DEATH NOTICES

Hall, Stasia J. (Wachta)
Died May 4, 2020
Private graveside services
Bethany Cemetery

Jacobs, Louie A.
Died May 3, 2020
Graveside service May 8, 2020
Bethany Cemetery

Sheeran, Beatrice V. (Fountain)
Died April 8, 2020
Burial services at a later date

Slowick, Joseph E.
Died April 19, 2020
Burial at the family's discretion
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Trela, Stanley A.
Died April 21, 2020
Private graveside services will be private
Motyka Funeral Home

Wojtowicz, Stanley A., Jr.
Died April 26, 2020
Memorial service at a later date in Three Rivers

NOTICE

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O B I T U A R I E S

Stasia J. Hall, 91

MONSON - Stasia J. (Wachta) Hall, 91, passed away Monday, May 4, 2020. Stasia was born September 10, 1928 in the Bondsville section of Palmer to the late Adam and Mary T. (Rzatkos) Wachta. She was a long time resident of Monson and a communicant of St. Patrick's Church in Monson.

Stasia enjoyed attending local Church festivals where she could be found playing games and taking chances at various raffle prizes. She had an affinity toward homemade Polish cuisine and would even send packages of Polish food for her adult children

to enjoy with their families.

Stasia was predeceased by her husband Robert G. Hall Sr, and her son Alan Hall. She leaves her sons, Robert Hall Jr and his wife Elaine of Somers, Ct, Kevin Hall and his wife Elizabeth of Belle Haven, VA and Gary Hall of Monson; a daughter Pamela Tanner and her husband, Michael of Naples, FL; grandchildren; Garrett Hall of Ludlow, Danielle Hall of Ludlow, Alison Harding of Brooklyn, NY, Sam Hall of Monson, Bren-



dan Tanner of Naples, FL and Sydney Tanner of Naples, FL; a sister Helen Pisarczyk of Palmer; brothers, Walter Wachta of Lancaster, MA and Ted Wachta of Monson.

A private graveside service will be held at Bethany Cemetery in Monson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. www.alz.org. For online condolences please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com.

Louie A. Jacobs, 86



Louie A. Jacobs, 86, passed away Sunday May 3, 2020 on his 86th birthday. Louie was born May 3, 1934 in Palmer, MA to the late Anthony L. and Augusta (Santini) Jacobs. He served in the US Army from 1956-1958 and was Honorably Discharged. Louie retired from CF Church in Monson after 32 years. Louie

was a communicant of St. Patrick's Church in Monson.

He leaves his sons, Anthony L. Jacobs of Wilbraham and Timothy W. Jacobs of Monson; a granddaughter Jessica Jacobs; a brother, Camillo Jacobs of Monson; a sister Antoinette Hale of Florida and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased

by his parents and a brother Jake Jacobs.

A graveside service will be held Friday, May 8th at 11 a.m. in Bethany Cemetery in Monson. A memorial mass will be held at a later date. For online condolences please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com.

Beatrice V. (Fountain) Sheeran, 81

Beatrice V. Sheeran, 81 passed away April 8, 2020 with her son by her side after a period of declining health.

Born in Brimfield, MA March 18, 1939 the daughter of the late Noah and Julia (LaBare) Fountain. A longtime resident of Wales, MA she held several town official positions including Town Clerk and Selectwoman. She retired after many years as Transportation Coordinator for

Union 61 school districts before moving to Florida in 2003.

She was predeceased by her loving husband Donald R. Sheeran in 2014 and sister Dorothy DiPietro in 2015.

She is survived by daughters Debbie Sheeran of Wales MA; Jeanie Allen and her husband Bill of



Broomfield, MA; Son Don Sheeran and wife Donna of Indio, CA; brother Robert Fountain and wife Marie of Chappaquiddick Island, MA and sister Joan Rollins of Kismet, FL.

There are no calling hours and burial services will be announced at a later date.

Joseph E. Slowick, 84

Joseph E. Slowick, 84, of Palmer passed away on Sunday, April 19th, 2020. He leaves his wife of 56 years of marriage, Geraldine Mary Crimmins Slowick. He also leaves a daughter, Laura and son-in-law Thomas A. Brown III. A beloved sister Carolyn Quigley resides in Vergennes, Vermont. Also, he leaves in-laws Tom and Calma Brown of Monson.

Joseph was predeceased by his father Dr. Joseph A. Slowick and his mother Elizabeth Ann Jones Slowick, and a beloved sister Ann Poehler.

Joseph attended High School at Monson Wilbraham Academy then received his bachelor's in engineering at Union College Schenectady, NY. After 4 yrs in

the U.S. Coast Guard, he returned home to be an engineer with IBM. Upon receiving a master's in teaching at American International College, Joseph took a job teaching Biology at Monson High School for 35yrs. He retired from teaching at age 65. Then Joseph completed a 20yr career as a Historian for Sturbridge Village.

He will be deeply missed by granddaughter Elizabeth, and grandsons Thomas Arlington, and Private Joseph Brown U.S. Army. He also leaves behind his devoted nieces Cindy, Susan, Kathy, and Lisa, and a nephew Mike Quigley. In addition,



he will be missed by cousins Joan Serio, and Retired Colonel William Callahan U.S. Army both from Hudson, MA, and Daniel Slowick and his wife Nancy of Palmer. Cousins John and Candace O'Brien will miss him too.

Beers and Story Funeral Home will arrange a burial at the discretion of the family. In Lieu of flowers please send donations to the Joseph E. Slowick Memorial Fund. gofundme.com/f/joseph-e-slowick-memorial-fund. For details, please visit www.beersand-story.com

Stanley A. Trela, 100

Stanley A. Trela, 100, of Bondsville, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 21 at Life Care Center of Wilbraham. He was born October 8, 1919 in Ware to the late Albert and Josephine (Bobola) Trela. Stanley was a devout communicant of Divine Mercy Parish in Three Rivers. He was a proud veteran serving in the Army 343 Engineers as a corporal during WWII. Stanley worked for several constructive firms as a union laborer until his retirement in 1984. In his leisure he enjoyed working in his many gardens,

feeding and watching the birds that visited the yard, and followed the Red Sox, as he was a devoted fan. Stanley was predeceased by his wife of 70 years, Mary (Karcz) in February 2019, and also by nine brothers and sisters. He is survived by his daughter, Marilyn Lemanski (Ronald), and his granddaughters, Rebecca Greene (Wesley) and Melissa Lemanski, as well as several nieces and nephews. The family



would like to thank the staff at Life Care for their compassionate care, as well as his roommate, Larry, for the comfort he brought to Stanley. Private Graveside services will be held at Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery. Donations in Stanley's memory may be made to Divine Mercy Parish, 2267 Main St., Three Rivers, MA 01080. MOTYKA FUNERAL HOME handled arrangements.

O B I T U A R I E S

Stanley A. Wojtowicz, 77



Stanley A. Wojtowicz, Jr, of Naples, Florida passed away on Sunday, April 26, 2020, after courageously battling complications resulting from a severe stroke in 2018. He leaves behind his loving wife and best friend of 21 years, Elizabeth "Betsy" (Connors) Wojtowicz. He was born on June 2, 1942 in Palmer, Massachusetts to Stanley A. and Sophie V. (Pytko) Wojtowicz of nearby Three Rivers. He grew up with his brother Paul always near his side, and stayed close to his sibling, and Paul's wife Vera, even as distance often separated them. The Catholic Church played a vital role in his family and spiritual life, beginning at Saints Peter and Paul Parish (currently known as Divine Mercy Parish) in Three Rivers, MA as an altar boy and ending at St. Peter the Apostle Church in Naples, FL. Stan graduated from Palmer High School and received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business from Saint Anselm College. After furthering his studies at Cornell University, he became a dedicated professional for 50 years in the grocery business, managing Grand Union, Edward's and Shaw's supermarkets

throughout the northeast. The culmination of his food service career was as proprietor of the Holland Market, a true family business in the small town of Holland Massachusetts. Throughout his academic and professional times, he made many cherished friends that were always close to his heart; too many to mention. He made friends wherever he went with his kind ways, compassion, sharp wit, love of life and incredible optimism. Stan was a four-season sports fanatic playing, coaching and following events throughout his life. He loved to compete, growing up playing baseball, hockey and football. He enjoyed horse racing, playing cards and 18 holes at the golf course, although his dream of underscoring his beloved Betsy was seldom realized. We'll forgive him for being a NY Yankee fan. When not working or playing hard he enjoyed traveling with Betsy, especially to Ogunquit, ME and the islands of the Caribbean for well-deserved rest and relax-

ation. Besides his wife Betsy, he is survived by his former wife Marian Morris and their four children; Christopher and Andrea (Moreau) Wojtowicz of Upton, MA; Jayne and Christopher Beck of Old Bridge, NJ; Jeffrey Wojtowicz of Sturbridge, MA; and Nicole and Uriah Stoltze of Sebastian, FL. His grandchildren, Abigail Martinez and her husband Luis, Zachary Wojtowicz and his wife Tiffany, Emily Wojtowicz and Jack Beck will dearly miss him, as will his great-grandson Samuel Martinez; brother, Paul Wojtowicz and his wife Vera of Topsfield, MA; as well as his extended family of beloved aunts, uncles, cousins, brothers and sisters in-law, nephews and nieces from MA, RI and beyond. We would like to thank the staff at Heritage Health Care in Naples for Stan's care during the past two years. A memorial service in Three Rivers will be planned for a later date. Memorial donations in Stan's memory may be sent to Divine Mercy Parish, 2267 Main St. Three Rivers, MA 01080.

Gas prices remain the same, says AAA

Gasoline prices in Massachusetts remain the same this week, according to AAA Northeast.

AAA Northeast's May 4 survey of prices in Massachusetts finds self-serve, regular unleaded averaging \$1.90 per gallon. Massachusetts's price is twelve cents above the national average of \$1.78. A year ago at this time, the average price in Massachusetts was 94 cents higher at \$2.84 per gallon.

"As some states begin to reopen businesses, those states will likely see demand increase and

pump prices will likely follow suit," said Mary Maguire, Director, Public and Legislative Affairs.

The range in prices in the latest AAA survey for unleaded regular is 95 cents, from a low of \$1.44 to a high of \$2.39. AAA advises motorists to shop around for the best prices in their area. Please remember to slow down and move over for any emergency vehicles on the side of the road.

On May 4, local gas prices and their ranges are as follows: Self-Serve

Grade: \$1.90 (\$1.44-\$2.39)

Regular Unleaded:

\$2.20 (\$1.89-\$2.29)

Midgrade Unleaded:

\$2.48 (\$2.07-\$2.99)

Premium Unleaded:

\$2.67 (\$2.39-\$3.29)

Diesel

Find the most up-to-date local gas prices with the AAA Fuel Finder by logging onto AAA.com and clicking on Gas Saving Tips & Tools.

The Journal Register

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

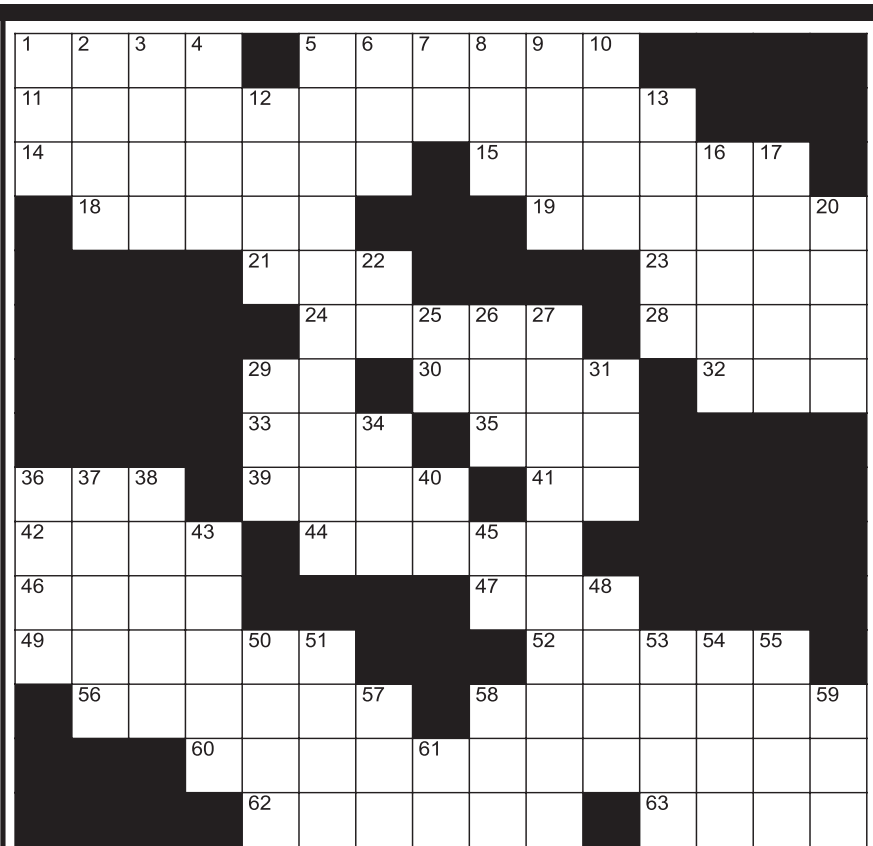
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CLUES ACROSS

- Expression of sorrow or pity
- NYC Mayor
- Essays
- Walk lightly
- Those who utilize
- Actress Judd
- One-time community of nations
- Norwegian river
- Unconscious states
- Make muddy
- Unit of volume
- Consciousnesses
- Envision
- When you aim to get there
- Electronic data

processing

- Passports are some
- Snake-like fish
- Military flyers (abbr.)
- Popular computers
- Ecological stage
- Wings
- Used in combination
- Laid back
- Princess's headgear
- Musical composition
- Famed Falls
- Reiterations
- Eras
- Track event

CLUES DOWN

- Defensive nuclear weapon (abbr.)
- Instead
- Gifts for the poor

4. A type of gin

- Torments
- One point south of due east
- Actor Pacino
- Feline
- Chinese dynasty
- Short cries for help
- Straits can sometimes be this
- Further
- Variety shows
- Supernatural
- A university in Connecticut
- Atomic #27
- Of I
- We all have one
- Religious guilds
- This can sting
- Sunscreen rating

34. Brew

- Religious leader
- Indigo bush
- Burn with a hot liquid
- Jr.'s father
- Ray-finned fish genus
- Morning
- Straight line passing from side to side (abbr.)
- S-shaped line
- Small bunch of hay
- Ripened
- Crater on Mars
- Humanities
- Of the ears
- To the ___ degree
- Wood
- Cools your home

Schools

Gabrielle Longe of Monson graduates from Cedarville University

Gabrielle Longe of Monson, MA graduated from Cedarville University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology during the 124th annual commencement held May 2, 2020.

Cedarville University, located between Dayton and Columbus, Ohio is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 4,380 undergraduate, graduate, and online students in more than 150 areas of study.

Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation, and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings, and high student engagement ranking. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.

Dr. Sharianne Walker named Dean of WNEU College of Business

SPRINGFIELD – Dr. Sharianne Walker has been named Dean of the Western New England University College of Business. Dr. Linda E. Jones, University Provost, recently made the announcement citing Walker’s dedication and commitment to the College of Business and the University who has spearheaded accreditation, strategic planning, and assessment projects at the University.

A native of Northampton, Mass., Walker joined the College of Business faculty in 1996, most recently serving as Chair and Professor of Sport Management, as well as codirector of the Master of Science in Sport Leadership and Coaching graduate program.

Dr. Walker is the coauthor of the texts Managing Intercollegiate Athletics; Managing Sport Organizations: Responsibility for Performance; and Strategic Management in International Sport in International Sport Management. Her current research focuses on revenue and resource development models in sports organizations, strategic management and leadership. She has presented her research in leadership development, business operations, and revenue generation at various international, national, and regional conferences.

An influential figure in the growth of the University’s athletics program, she has served as a faculty fellow, an NCAA Faculty Representative, chair of the Western New England Athletics Council, Athletic Direct Report, and was inducted into the University’s Downes Athletic Hall of Fame.

Walker was previously named Career Woman of the Year by the Massachusetts Business and Professional Women’s Association and served as Director of the Springfield Leadership Institute. She is currently the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Frank Newhall Look Memorial Park in Florence.

Walker earned her bachelor’s degree in English from Smith College, and master’s and Ph.D. degrees in Sport Management from the University of Massachusetts.



HCC donates surplus food to area nonprofits

HOLYOKE - Surplus food from Holyoke Community College has benefitted hundreds of individuals and families who frequent area food pantries and social service agencies.

With the HCC campus now closed and all classes moved online because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the college donated its perishable food supplies to three area nonprofits, the Martin Luther King Jr. Family Center in Springfield, the YWCA Transitional Living Program in Holyoke and the Easthampton Community Center in Easthampton.

The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts helped coordinate the donations.

In late March, college staff emptied the pantries and refrigerators at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute on Race Street. Stacy Graves, the institute coordinator, estimated that the college donated about \$600 worth of produce, fruit, milk, eggs, butter, yogurt and cream to the YWCA Transitional Living Program. The food had been slated for use in HCC’s Culinary Arts program.

“I hope you guys like carrots and potatoes because there’s lots of them,” Graves said to Shari-fa Forbes, the YWCA program supervisor, as they unloaded the van.

“We really do appreciate it,” Forbes said. “Thank you so much for this. This is awesome.”

Tess Gordon, the YWCA’s



direct service advocate, said the food would be portioned out for the dozen or more teen moms who live with their children at the center, where they prepare their own meals.

“Right now, with COVID-19, it’s hard for them to go out into the community to shop, especially with keeping their kids safe,” Gordon said.

“I wish I could give you a big hug,” Forbes said to Graves from a safe distance in the parking lot outside the center. “It helps out a lot. Times are uncertain. The girls are nervous.”

On another day, after emptying the walk-in coolers of the college’s cafeteria kitchen, Mark Pronovost, HCC director of Aramark/Dining Services, delivered nearly 400 pounds of assorted produce, fruit and dairy prod-

Virtual dance party Thursday featuring a DJ set by ?uestlove

The UMass Amherst Fine Arts Center in partnership with the UMass Office of the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs presents a virtual dance party featuring a DJ set by four-time Grammy Award winning artist ?uestlove on Thursday, May 7 at 8 p.m. The event is the Fine Arts Center’s way to congratulate the UMass Amherst class of 2020 and celebrate the whole campus community for stepping up in the face of the coronavirus crisis. The event will stream for free on livestream.com and on the Fine Arts Center’s Facebook page, www.facebook.com/UMassFineArtsCenter.

“We hope this moment will provide a much-needed moment of joy for our campus community as we close out the spring semester from afar,” said Jamilla Deria, director of the Fine Arts Center. “I can’t imagine a better artist that ?uestlove to celebrate the revolutionary spirit of UMass Amherst.”

In response to the coronavirus, ?uestlove has been livestreaming virtual DJ dance parties to raise funds for a Covid-19 Food Hub providing NYC students with school meals who no longer have access.

Drummer, DJ, producer, culinary entrepreneur, New York Times best-selling author, and member of The Roots, ?uestlove, is the unmistakable heartbeat of Philadelphia’s most influential hip-hop group. He is the Musical Director for “The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon,” where his beloved Roots crew serves as house band. Beyond that, this four-time GRAMMY Award winning musician’s indisputable reputation has landed him musical directing positions with everyone from D’Angelo to Eminem to Jay-Z. ?uestlove has also released two books including the New York Times best-seller “Mo’ Meta Blues” and “Soul Train: The Music, Dance and Style of a Generation.” One of his latest endeavors includes scoring Chris Rock’s film, “Top Five,” and also working as the music supervisor. He also recently produced the Original Broadway Cast Recording of “Hamilton,” alongside Alex Lacamoire, Bill Sherman, Lin-Manuel Miranda and Tarik “Black Thought” Trotter. He will also serve as the Executive Music Producer and Composer on the A&E Mini Series “Roots.”

?uestlove made his way into the culinary world with his signature “Love’s Drumstick.” Most recently has hosted a series of Food Salons with world-renowned and innovative chefs at his Financial District apartment in the NY by Gehry building. ?uestlove has appeared as a Guest Judge on “Top Chef” Season 11, his interest in food and his own culinary endeavors have been featured on the cover of New York Magazine, in Food & Wine Magazine, Bon Appetit, and seen on “The View,” “Watch What Happens Live,” and “Late Night with Jimmy Fallon.” He is a Celebrity Ambassador for Food Bank for New York City, is on the City Harvest Food Council, a board member of Edible Schoolyard, and the first Artist-in-Residence at the Made in NY Media Center. ?uestlove is also a Founding Member of the CAPA Foundation in Philadelphia.

For more information, visit fineartscenter.com/Questlove or the Fine Arts Center’s Facebook page facebook.com/UMassFineArtsCenter.

Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE
MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapt. 131, s.40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday **May 13, 2020 at 7:50 P.M. REMOTELY.** Under consideration is a Notice of Intent for the construction of a SFH and associated work on Lot 1B Stafford Hollow Rd, Map 105, Parcel 2E. The proposed work will include approximately 21,124 sf of disturbance within the 100 ft wetland buffer zone. Property owner Maria Roxo filed the notice.
Join meeting using link below or by telephone and enter the meeting ID and password.
Meeting URL: <https://zoom.us/j/99108305390?pwd=UVEvbEFFZFJrQ3A2N->

LEGAL NOTICE
MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapt. 131, s.40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday **May 13, 2020 at 8:05 P.M. REMOTELY.** Under consideration is a Notice of Intent for repairs and maintenance to the Boulder Hill Dam located at 75 Bradley Rd to bring the dam to full compliance pursuant to MGL Chapter 253. Work will

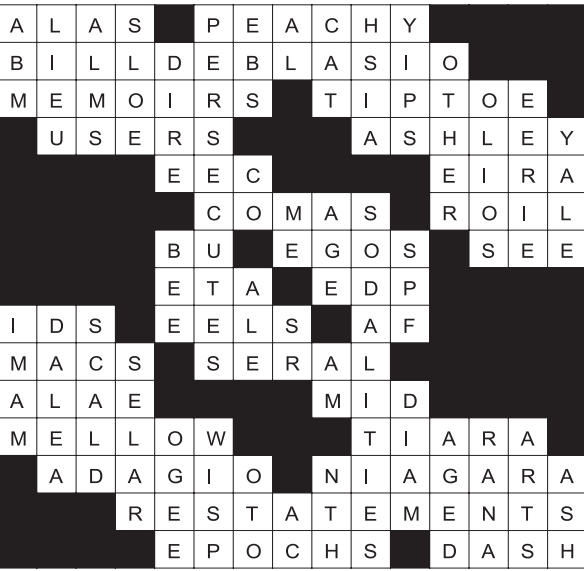
occur within Land Under Waterbodies & Waterways, Inland Bank, Riverfront area and the 100’ buffer zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Joe Dasco of Boulder Hill Development, LLC filed the notice.
Join meeting using link below or by telephone and enter the meeting ID and password.
Meeting URL: <https://zoom.us/j/99108305390?pwd=UVEvbEFFZFJrQ3A2N->
Dial: 1 312 626 6799
Meeting ID: 991 0830 5390
Password: 133435
Submitted by: Monson Conservation Commission
5/07/2020

TOWN OF MONSON
LEGAL NOTICE
In accordance with Chapter 40A, M.G.L. s11, the Monson Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing **Tuesday May 19, 2020 at 7:05 P.M. REMOTELY,** on the application of Vertex Tower Assets, LLC for a Special Permit as provided by Section 6.14, Wireless Communications Facilities Regulations of the Monson Zoning Bylaws. The applicant proposes to install a 100’ tall monopole style wireless communications tower at 94 Cote Rd, Monson, MA, Map 052, Parcel 028, owned by Ronald P. Ouimet & Amy S. Ouimet, in the Rural Residential district. A copy of the application is on file with the Planning Board.
Z o o m R e m o t e
Participation Information:
Meeting URL: <https://zoom.us/j/98229749796?pwd=RTFNTWp0Q1l1cUZX->
UlllyTkxXbSrdz09
Meeting ID: 982 2974 9796
Password: 309472
Craig Sweitzer, Chairman
4/30, 5/07/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Probate and Family Court Department
HAMPDEN ss
Docket No: HD18P1087PM
To all persons interested in the estate of **Robert Miller otherwise Robert F. Miller, Jr. of Palmer** in said County, person under conservatorship single.
A petition has been presented to said Court for license to sell at private sale certain real estate of said Robert Miller otherwise Robert F. Miller, Jr. for his maintenance.
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at **Springfield before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 22nd day of May 2020**, the return day of this citation.
Witness, **BARBARA M. HYLAND** Esquire, First Judge of said Court this 29th day of April 2020.
Attest:
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register
5/07/2020

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING
Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for **Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 6 pm** and in light of COVID-19, will be held virtually as follows:
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89257653739>
Meeting ID: 892-5765-3739
or Via Dial-in: (646) 558 8656 and entering the Meeting ID
The proposed Marijuana Cultivation Establishment is anticipated to be located at 25 Ware Street, Palmer, MA 01069. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.
5/07/2020

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.



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PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts’ public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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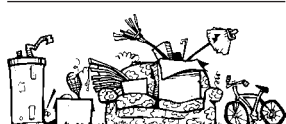
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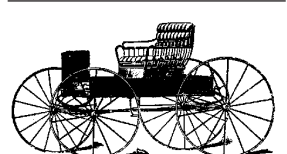
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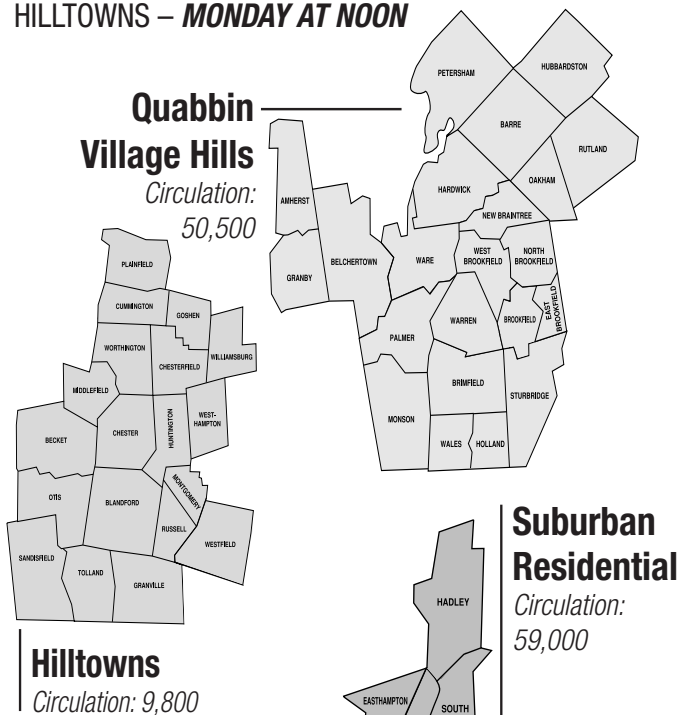
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Second Chance volunteer fosters making best of stay-at-home

Families help care for newborn kittens

EAST BROOKFIELD — Some very lucky families have found a great way to spend their time during the current stay-at-home advisory — helping to care for newborn kittens for Second Chance Animal Services. Right now, Second Chance has four litters of kittens in their care and they are grateful to their volunteer fosters who are providing round the clock care for these helpless babies.

Fosters follow many of the steps of the lifesaving kitten protocol which was developed by Second Chance to help save the lives of prematurely born kittens, including weighing the kittens twice a day to ensure they are receiving the proper amount of nutrition. The protocol was published last year to help increase the odds of survival for premature kittens through animal welfare organizations across the country.

Second Chance has so many kittens in foster right now that they dedicated their weekly Wish List Wednesday Facebook

post to the kittens in hopes of receiving more kitchen scales to help fosters track each kitten's weight. Second Chance shared a video of a foster kitten nicknamed Mitten

tongue for the kitten.

Mitten and his sibling are getting extra attention from the whole family. Five-year-old Lila asks her mom to bring home foster kittens and likes to help feed and bathe them daily. Her mom says fostering provides important life lessons, from caring for others to saying goodbye to the kittens when it's time for them to go back to Second Chance so they can find forever homes. Lila's 2-year-old brother Callen is doing his part, cuddling with the kittens to provide socialization under the close supervision of mom's watchful eye.

When the kittens are old enough, they will return to Second Chance where vets will clear them for adoption after they are spayed or neutered and vaccinated. The next step is the adoption center in East Brookfield where they will be available for adoption.

Second Chance is currently working to process all the foster applications that have been submitted by animal lovers looking for a way to help during the COVID-19 crisis. For more information becoming a foster, visit secondchanceanimals.org.



Turley Publications courtesy photo
Lila, 5, helps with foster kitten Cheebee. Her family has taken in some kittens from Second Chance and is fostering them. They will go back to shelter when they are old enough for adoption.

being brushed with a toothbrush. The toothbrush feels like a mother's

Drivers urged to slow down

BOSTON — The Massachusetts Department of Transportation is reporting that the rate of fatalities on Massachusetts roadways doubled in April. Although 50 percent less traffic was recorded on major highways, 28 individuals died in crashes, compared with the month of April 2019, when there were 27 deaths on roadways in the state. The high fatality rate last month, underscores the importance of not exceeding the posted speed limit, wearing a seat belt, driving sober and obeying the hands-free law.

"Our traffic and safety engineers continuously monitor roadways across the commonwealth and have identified a dangerous trend that has led to the doubling of the vehicular fatality rate in Massachusetts for the month of April," said Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. "During the pandemic, everyone in the commonwealth has sacrificed and used disciplined actions to keep themselves, their loved ones and our community safe. We ask that all residents use this same dedication to safety and reduce their speeds when driving."

"Reduced traffic volume is no excuse for excessive speed," said Jeff Larason, director of highway safety for the Executive Office of

Safety and Security. "We're reminding everyone to drive responsibly, wear a seat belt, and watch the road for cyclists and pedestrians."

Motor vehicle deaths occurred state-wide in April, including three deaths in a 24-hour-period on April 18 and April 19: in Richmond, on Route 41 southbound, in Hopkinton, on I-495 southbound, and in Seekonk, on I-195 eastbound. The most recent road fatality reported to MassDOT was on Saturday, May 2, occurring in Andover on I-93 near exit 42.

The commonwealth has several initiatives which seek to improve road safety, including:

- The Massachusetts Strategic Highway Safety Plan, crafted by a diverse cross section of government agencies, advocates, and other stakeholders which contains specific strategies, direct actions and legislative proposals to get Massachusetts closer towards zero deaths and to an interim goal of a 12 percent drop in five-year average fatalities and a 21 percent drop in five-year average serious injuries.

- The 2019 Massachusetts Pedestrian Transportation Plan and 2019 Massachusetts Bicycle Transportation Plan seek to elimi-

nate fatalities and serious injuries for pedestrians, individuals using a wheelchair, cane or other assisted mobility device, and those riding bicycles while increasing the number of trips taken.

- MassDOT's public education program, "Scan the Street for Wheels and Feet," underscores the need for greater awareness on the road, citing statistics including, "1 in 4 deaths in motor vehicle crashes involve people walking or bicycling."

MassDOT has been pleased to work collaboratively on this public safety initiative with the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Boston Vision Zero, WalkBoston, MassBike, and the Safe Roads Alliance.

In addition, in January 2019, the Baker-Polito Administration filed several proposed safety bills, including the hands-free law which became law in February 2020, with fines for violations taking effect April 1.

For more information on state initiatives, please visit www.mass.gov/highway-safety, www.mass.gov/service-details/pedestrian-plan and www.mass.gov/service-details/bicycle-plan.

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